(c) Director General of Civil Aviation advised Indian Airlines to :

(1) Apprise their pilots operating A-320 aircraft of the possible confusion and to ensure proper crew coordination procedures.

(2) A general circular be issued on this aspect to all A-320 pilots for their information and guidance.

(3) All Examiners/Instructors/Check Pilots of A-320 aircraft may also be advised to check this item during any route/proficiency checks.

Cancellation of Flight Schedules of Indian Airlines/Air India

7. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of flight schedules of Air India and Indian Airlines cancelled due to the strike by the Indian Airlines/Air India pilots or Engineering staff during the past one year, month-wise;

(b) what is the number of flight schedules of Air India/Indian Airlines cancelled due to the requisitioning of planes for the tours of VIPs during the past one year;

(c) what is the number of flight schedules of Air India/Indian Airlines cancelled due to the non-availability of spare parts during the past one year; and

(d) what is the total number of flight schedules of Air India/Indian Airlines cancelled during the past one year?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Due to Pilots' strike in Air India, 160 single flights were cancelled in May, 1991 while in Indian Airlines, 2 flights were cancelled, 13 combined into 6 and one withdrawn in November, 1991 and 94 cancelled on 20th/21st December, 1991 and a truncated schedule was introduced from 22nd till 26th December, 1991.

(b) No flights were cancelled in Indian Airlines while 9 round-trip flights were cancelled in Air India in November, 1991 and 2 in December, 1991.

(c) During the past one year, no flight of Air India/Indian Airlines was cancelled due to non-availability of spare parts.

(d) During the past one year, 479 round-trip flights of Air India and 2903 flights of Indian Airlines were cancelled.

Setting up of Light and Sound Show in Sibsagar, Assam

8. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration for setting up of a light and sound show programme at Talatal Ghar of Sibsagar, Assam; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Strike by pilots in Indian Airlines

9. SHRI. RAGHAVJI:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of the Pilots of Indian Airlines went on a flash strike on Saturday the 21st December, 1991 resulting in cancellation of majority of flights throughout the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what were the reasons which compelled the pilots to resort to the strike;

(c) what is the total loss suffered by the Indian Airlines on this account and the details of services affected and cancelled;

(d) whether it is also a fact that on the intervention of the Government the strike was called off by the Pilots but the Chairman and Managing Director of Indian Airlines resigned in protest;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof

and the reasons for which the CMD of Indian Airlines resigned;

(f) what action Government have taken to prevent strikes in the Air Industry and discipline the Pilots and other personnel of the Airlines; and

(g) what are the terms on which matter was resolved?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) On 21st December 1991, out of a total of 454 line pilots of Indian Airlines 97 reported sick.

Pilots of Indian Airlines had been resenting the management's decision transferring 8 pilots from Delhi and Bombay to meet shortage in Calcutta. On 20th December, 1991, 7 pilots on temporary duty in Calcutta reported sick there. The mass absenteeism which followed on 21st December 1991 was a part of the agitation against the transfer of pilots to Calcutta, while it was stated on behalf of the pilots that it was also in protest against denial by the management of the facility of travel back to the base station in the case of the 7 pilots on temporary duty who had reported sick in Calcutta.

As a result of this agitation, a number of flights were cancelled, and a severely curtailed schedule was introduced for the period 22nd to 26th December 1991. The loss sustained by Indian Airlines owing to dislocation of services during the period 20th to 26th December, 1991 is estimated at Rs. 4 crores.

(d) & (e) The agitation was called off. Subsequently the then Chairman and Managing Director of Indian Airlines submitted his resignation because in his perception Government had accused the management of mishandling the situation and had set up a Committee for direct dialogue with employees' Unions and Associations.

(f) Government have set up a tripartite consultation forum which is engaged in an effort to ensure that the management of the airlines and its employees have closer communication and interaction. Indian Airlines has been advised to energise its internal systems for grievance settlement. The Chief Executive has also been advised to take meetings periodically to facilitate communication among different sections of the employees. These are among the measures taken to ensure maintenance of cordial industrial relations.

(g) The issue concerning transfer of pilots to Calcutta is under concilliation before the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Bombay.

Location of Offices of the Department of Tourism

10. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the places and the countries where tourism offices of Department of Tourism are located;

(b) what is the total staff strength of these offices and the annual expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether Government have made any assessment of their work; if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to close these offices, if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The information may be seen at the statement enclosed (*see* below)

(c) The performance of the overseas offices is monitored closely and assessed on a quarterly basis on a prescribed comprehensive format.

(d) For the present No Sir. The matter is reviewed from time to time.

(e) Tourist offices overseas fulfill an important function in disseminating authentic information about the multi-faceted tourist attractions of India. This is expected to enhance tourist arrivals from that particular destination to India, thereby also earning valuable foreign exchange for the country.